

April 22.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50; mediums, \$2.00; snappers, \$1.00.  
Shore frozen herring for bait, \$2.00 to \$2.50 per cwt.  
Round pollock, 50 cts. per cwt.  
Newfoundland frozen herring, for bait, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per cwt.

#### Fishing Fleet Movements.

Capt. William Goodwin will fit sch. Boyd and Leeds for Rips fishing.  
Sch. Flora S. Nickerson is coming here from Boston to fit for single dory fishing.  
Sch. Alice R. Lawson was at Port au Bosques, N. F., recently.  
Sch. Flirt was at Shelburne, N. S., Monday.

#### Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Edith Silveira, 8000 haddock, 1000 cod.  
Sch. Aspinet, 15,000 cod, 5000 hake, 18,000 cusk.  
Sch. Nokomis, 9000 haddock, 1000 cod.  
Sch. Mettacommet, 5000 cod.  
Sch. F. D. Brown, 2500 cod.  
Sch. Lillian, 12,000 cod.  
Sch. Rita A. Viator, 1000 haddock, 6000 cod.  
Sch. Klondike.  
Sch. M. Madeline, 12,000 haddock, 5000 cod.  
Sch. Mary J. Ward, 2500 haddock, 1000 cod.  
Sch. Elva L. Spurling, 12,000 cod.  
Sch. Flavilla, 12,000 haddock, 4000 cod, 2000 hake.  
Sch. Juniata, 6000 haddock, 5000 cod.  
Sch. Harvester, 8000 haddock, 23,000 cod, 12,000 cusk, 2000 pollock.  
Sch. Warren M. Goodspeed, 2500 haddock, 1500 cod, 15,000 hake, 7000 cusk.  
Haddock, 75 cts. to \$2 per cwt.; large cod, \$1.75 to \$2; market cod, \$1.10; pollock, \$3; hake, 75 cts. to \$2.

#### Portland Arrivals and Fishing Notes.

About 65,000 pounds of fish were received on the Portland market Tuesday making the most plentiful supply to be landed within the past two weeks. All the vessels at the fishing grounds had good luck and the fish seemed to be present in abundance. Sch. Ella M. Doughty had a fare of 25,000 pounds while sch. Carrie C., of Gloucester from Georges had 3000 pounds of halibut besides 8000 pounds of salt fish. Sch. Mattie Winship of Gloucester had 1000 pounds of halibut and 12,000 pounds of salt fish.

The halibut was sold to the Lovett Co., but the cod remains on board and will be taken out in the schooner when she sails today on another trip to the Banks. The captain reports the spring weather on the Banks the worst known for 45 years, profitable fishing being out of the question, but notwithstanding the rough weather encountered no mishap of any kind occurred.

Sch. Fish Hawk of Boston was also there Tuesday, from a fishing cruise to Georges. She brought in a trip of 2500 pounds of halibut, which were taken out at the J. W. Trefethen Co.'s sheds. The schooner also had on board 18,000 pounds of salt cod, which will not be disturbed, as after refitting she will return to Georges to make another catch. Capt. Groves reports rough weather on the Banks and the vessel came in leaking, some of her oakum having worked out, and she will go on the railway for repairs before resuming her trip.

Sch. Dorothy, also there Tuesday, had 3000 pounds of fresh fish.

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#### Bait.

A special to the Times from the Magdalen Islands, the great source of fresh bait supply for the salt bankers and shakers, states that there have been no herring showing there as yet, and that no traps have yet been put down.

There are plenty of herring at Queensport, N. S., and of late four or five vessels have been baiting daily. It is expected that the herring will hang on until May 10 or 15. Alewives are plenty at Edgartown and selling at 70 cents per hundred.

Nothing like the run of alewives up the Taunton river during the past week has been known in a quarter of a century, notwithstanding reports of recent years that the species was gradually becoming extinct.

The catch for the present week, which closed by law yesterday, numbers something over 1,000,000, over 100,000 having been taken at Shallow Water alone.

The Consolidated Weir Co. of Provincetown wires that there are plenty frozen herring and squid at that port and 100 barrels of fresh herring at Monomoy.

Abundance of herring struck in North Sydney, C. B., harbor Tuesday and the boats averaged 2000. The first struck in two weeks earlier than last year. Herring are usually sold to the Bank fishermen for bait, but no vessels have arrived there and there is no market for the fish.

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## MAY HASTEN UNDERSTANDING.

### Seizure of Sch. Charles

### L. Woodbury May Settle

### Status of Hecate Straits.

### Captain of Cutter Threat-

### ened to Sink Fishing

### Schooner.

A Washington dispatch says that the seizure of sch. Charles Levi Woodbury for alleged poaching will have a tendency to hasten a definite understanding between the American and British governments as to their attitude toward Hecate strait, which the Canadians desire shall be regarded as closed sea and the right of fishing therein denied to Americans.

"Repeated efforts have been made by the state department to obtain from Great Britain a definition of its attitude regarding this body of water, the correspondence on the subject dating back 10 years, but thus far without success. The United States takes the position that Hecate strait is an open sea, but should the contrary view finally prevail it would have a serious effect on the fishing interests of Puget sound. The strait lies between the Queen Charlotte island, and is 28 miles wide at its narrowest part.

"The necessity for an early understanding on the vexed question is realized by both countries."

Contrary to the general opinion, however, it has been found that the case is unrelated to the question of whether or not Hecate strait is an open or closed body of water, regarding which the state department is now endeavoring to get a definite statement of the attitude of Great Britain. In the present case apparently the controversy is to be over the three-mile limit, to which extent according to the general interpretation of international law, a nation has the right to say whether or not fishing may be carried on by citizens of another country.

Had the Woodbury been discovered fishing within the three-mile limit, the Canadian cruiser, it is said, would have the right to give chase and even take it on the high seas outside of the maritime limit. Capt. Sinclair's claim, however, that he was merely making a passage between the islands is an important issue in the case, he having this right, according to the usual interpretations of the law.

The chase and seizure of the Woodbury took place Sunday afternoon. Five bullets tore through the air in the direction of the Woodbury each time the machine gun was fired as the vessels headed at full speed from the west coast of Vancouver island pointed toward the middle of the Pacific.

Capt. Sinclair of the Woodbury feared that he would be sunk right there if he did not stop. At the same moment the second gun of the Kestrel was swung across her lock to get into range of the fishing boat. The Woodbury's engines were then stopped and her sails, gashed by the British bullets, hauled down. A few minutes later an officer and three men from the Kestrel boarded the schooner and took charge.

Capt. Newcombe of the cutter, declares that if he ever had a

#### Clear Case Against an American Vessel

this is the one. Early Sunday afternoon, he says, the Kestrel was steaming in from Quatsine sound on the west coast when he spied an American vessel fishing between East and West Haycock islands. These islands lie about 10 miles off Cape Scott, the northernmost point of Vancouver island. The islands are five miles apart, so that from Capt. Newcombe's figuring it is impossible that the American boat be more than two and one-half miles from either shore. As a matter of fact, Newcombe says that when he first observed her the vessel was within a mile of East island. By the time she had picked up her dories she was within a short distance of West island.

Capt. Sinclair apparently did not notice the arrival of the Kestrel on the scene until the government vessel was within about three miles.

Then the American ran along picking up his five dories, the fishermen cutting their gear without wasting time to pull a fathom of it in. Within 20 minutes after the Kestrel was sighted the last dory had been picked up, and the schooner, with her motor power working to its full capacity and

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her sails spread to a full western breeze, turned toward the highland of the Pacific. The cruiser

### Gradually Overhauled the American Schooner,

and by the time they were four miles off-shore the Kestrel was alongside.

Capt. Newcombe yelled through a speaking trumpet, "Stop, or I will put a hole through you." "I don't think so," said Sinclair in a reply that came plainly over the water.

Then the big gun went off and there was a gash in the Woodbury's sail. When the second gun of the Kestrel had been unsprung and trained on the Woodbury, Capt. Sinclair realized that further flight was useless and surrendered.

Capt. Sinclair visited the United States consulate and lodged a complaint with Col. West, the American consul.

United States Consul West will take the sworn depositions of Capt. Sinclair and members of the crew, and investigate the case. If he thinks the seizure was not justified he will lodge a protest. Until the matters are straightened out, the crew of the schooner will remain on board. The schooner is owned by the Standard Fish Company of Seattle.

Capt. Sinclair, in discussing the seizure, said:

"The Canadian cruiser steamed alongside and ordered me to heave to. I asked why, and was told that my vessel was under seizure. He wanted

me to go into Bull harbor. I refused to do so, as I was in the Pacific ocean, on the high seas, and so the Kestrel passed a hawser to my schooner and towed me to Bull harbor, where we stayed that night.

"We were not fishing at the time. All my dories were aboard, and I was making a passage. Some of my men told me that we were fired on, but I am not prepared to say anything about that."

The matter of the seizure of the Woodbury has been turned over to the Canadian Department of Justice for trial. Condemnation proceedings will at once be instituted, the American schooner being held in the meantime. If condemned the Woodbury will be sold.

#### Location of Hecate Straits.

The Hecate straits are between the Queen Charlotte Islands and British Columbia. As these waters lie between two Canadian stretches of territory the Dominion claims that they are as much her exclusive property as Long Island sound is the property of the United States. The Hecate straits are valuable as halibut fisheries and are resorted to by both American fishermen from Seattle and Canadian fishermen from Vancouver.

It is estimated that there were 55,000,000 pounds of halibut taken in the Hecate straits last year and that of this amount 48,000,000 were taken by fishermen from the United States. The Canadian fishermen have made an appeal to the Canadian government to have these waters closed to the American fishermen. There is a delegation in Ottawa at the present time urging this on the government. The seizure of the Woodbury will bring the Washington and the Ottawa authorities to a serious discussion of this question of jurisdiction over valuable fishing waters.

#### Schooner Formerly Owned Here.

Sch. Charles Levi Woodbury, which was seized by the Canadian officials for alleged poaching, was engaged in the fisheries here for a number of years up to 1897, when she was bought by a party of prospectors for a trip to the Klondike gold fields. Under the command of Capt. Emerson Spinney she sailed from here for San Francisco, December 20, of that year.

After rounding Cape Horn, the schooner stopped at San Francisco to discharge a cargo of soft coal which had been carried as a side venture. The prospectors and the crew left the schooner at that port and proceeded by steamer to Alaska. The schooner was finally sold to a fur merchant doing business on Post street, San Francisco, for \$5000.

Few of the crew has ever returned. Some have been reported as striking it rich in the gold fields and others, unable to make the venture a success, engaged in whale fishing in the Arctic.

The schooner was built in Essex for Capt. Richard I. Cunningham of this city in 1888. She was 105 tons gross, 90 feet long, 23.7 feet broad and 9.8 feet deep.

She was sold from San Francisco to Seattle parties and there engaged in fishing. Recently a powerful gasoline engine was installed in her and she has been engaged in fresh halibut. Capt. Emerson Spinney of this city, who commanded the craft on her trip to the Pacific coast, and also was part owner of her, is now engaged in towboating at Neme, Alaska, and is also interested in gold properties.



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## EXPERIENCED SUDDEN SQUALL.

Sch. Joseph P. Johnson Lost Jib and Had Foregaff Broken.

The vessels that were out in Massachusetts bay last Monday evening had a rather exciting experience with a squall that sprang up almost without warning. The squall lasted only 10 minutes, but in that time it caused some lively hustling on the part of the fishermen in getting their sails furled.

All were not successful in doing this, and some of them suffered severely. Sch. Joseph P. Johnson, Capt. John Silva, was one of these. Capt. Silva was about 40 miles east of the head of Cape Cod, when the squall struck him. So suddenly did it come up that he had no time to prepare for it, and the strong gale of west wind caught his jib and tore it in ribbons. The foresail was also caught but held, although the gaff broke with the force of the wind. Capt. Silva said it was a good thing for him that the jib gave way, for had it held, the bowsprit would have gone, and had the gale lasted more than the 10 minutes the wind blew, it would have made considerable trouble.

The wind seems to have covered the entire bay from North to South shore. The strangest part of the gale was seen in Ipswich bay where the first indications of the storm was a series of small water spouts, that twisted water to a considerable height. That gave the captains warning, and they got all their canvas down and fastened before the gale reached them.

It was this squall that caught the sloop Beulah Maud off Isle of Shoals and gave her such a hard time.

## WAITED FOR PATENT WINDLASS.

Sch. Essex Will Sail on Fetched Halibut Trip Today.

Sch. Essex, Capt. Dominick Arsenault, after waiting two weeks for one of the new Richardson patent windlasses, will receive that important part of her equipment today and get away as soon as possible on her far north fetched halibut trip. The craft has been all fitted out for two weeks, but captain and crew wanted the new windlass bad enough to wait for it. It is notable that in all that time not one of the men left the vessel.

Sch. Fannie A. Smith, which was the first of the fetchers to sail, waited here three weeks after she was all fitted out, to get one of the windlasses, not a man leaving here in all that tedious wait ashore.

Sch. Massachusetts, Capt. John J. Carroll, now fitting for fetched halibuting, is also to have one of the new windlasses.

## Halibut Trip Stocks.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, Capt. Lemuel E. Spinney, stocked \$3608 as the result of her recent 24 days halibut trip, the crew sharing from \$69 to \$81 each, most of them having some headline fish.

Sch. Massachusetts, Capt. John J. Carroll, stocked \$2730 as the result of her recent three weeks halibut trip, the crew sharing \$65.

The new sch. Mary DeCosta, Capt. Joseph Silveira, stocked \$960 on her maiden trip, haddocking, the crew sharing \$22.25.

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## Repairing at Portland.

Sch. Fish Hawk of this port is at the marine railway at Portland, where repairs will be made upon her. The schooner reached Portland from Georges Tuesday night, where it was found that she had sprung aleak. On account of the depth of the schooner, she drawing 15 feet, it was impossible to haul her out, and she was beached on the eastern side of the wharf, and the leak will be located and repairs made.

## Harbor Notes.

Schs. Buema and Conqueror will go on Burnham's railways today.

Schs. Terra Nova and Julietta are on Parkhurst's railways today.

Schs. Priscilla and Waldo L. Stream are on the Rocky Neck railways.

Sch. Moocanam was on Burnham's railways yesterday.

## Four Trips at This Port.

There are four trips here today, all down from Boston to go to the splitters. Schs. Manomet, Frances P. Mesquita, Buema and Aspinet are the crafts and have from 12,000 to 50,000 pounds each.

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LITTLE FISH  
AT BOSTON.Close of the Week Makes  
Decline in Prices.

There is but little fish at Boston today, less than a dozen vessels being at T wharf. Prices are way off, for it is the last of the week and the dealers have all and more fish than they want.

The only trip there of note is sch. Preceptor of this port, Capt. Fred Upshell, with better than 30,000 pounds of halibut, making another fine fare for this energetic and rising young skipper. The craft has been gone four weeks and fished on the southern edge of Grand Bank, seeing no other vessels of the halibut fleet.

The otter trawler Spray is in with only a small fare, 30,000 pounds of cod and haddock, striking bad weather and finding fish scarce. A few of the market boats have small trips and three of the gasoline pollockers are in with light catches.

Haddock brought from \$1.25 to \$2.50, hake was down to from 30 cents to \$2 and pollock brought \$1.60.

## Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Clara G. Silva, 11,000 haddock. Steamer Bessie A., 8000 pollock. Sch. Liberty, 600 haddock, 800 cod. Steamer Spray, 15,000 haddock, 15,000 cod.

Steamer Water Witch, 4000 pollock. Steamer Bryda F., 6000 pollock.

Sch. Gracie.

Sch. Preceptor, 30,000 halibut.

Sch. Nettie Franklin, 8000 haddock, 3000 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Mertis H. Perry, 3000 cod, 3000 hake, 2000 cusk.

Sch. Valentina, 4000 cod.

Haddock, \$1.25 to \$2.50 per cwt.;

large cod, \$1.75 to \$2.50; market cod,

\$1 to \$2.50; hake, 30 cts. to \$2; pollock, \$1.60.

## Portland Arrivals.

Fish receipts Wednesday were rather light, the heavy sea running outside preventing most of the fishermen from making a "set." The steamer Eltheir was in with about 4000 pounds and the schooner Mildred V. Numan brought in a fare of 12,000 pounds, caught the day before. In addition about 15,000 pounds of mixed fish were brought in by the small boats, which apparently can get fish in all kinds of weather.

The sloop Minerva, which has been at the railway for several days taking on a new rubber post to replace one broken last week, sailed yesterday on a fishing cruise to Brown's Bank. The Minerva is one of the smartest boats in the Portland fishing fleet, and in proportion to her size her catch of fish is generally among the best.

## Dominion Ice Report.

The Halifax Board of Trade received the following Wednesday on the ice conditions:

Father Point, Matane, Cape Magdalen, Fame Point, Cape Rosier, Cape Despair, West Point, South West Point, Cape Ray—No ice.

Point Maquereau—Light open ice inshore.

Cape Tormentine—Foggy.

South Point—Heavy close packed everywhere stationary.

Heath Point—Heavy open ice distant, moving east.

Magdalen Islands—Light open ice everywhere moving east.

Capt St. Lawrence—Light close packed distant inshore, moving west. St. Paul's Island—Scattered ice stationary.

Cape North—Foggy.

Mulgrave Strait—Clear.

Port Hood—Large quantity of drift ice around coast.

Cape Traverse—Some loose ice.

Low Point—Light open ice distant, moving south.

## Had Two Million Cod Eggs.

The United States fish commission steamer Gannett came into Portland on Wednesday from Boothbay with 2,000,000 cod eggs on board. The eggs were taken on board at the fishing grounds where a stop was made, and not over half an hour was spent in making the transaction. This is the first time that the eggs have been collected for a week or more, as the steamer has been engaged in distributing and liberating fry. The bad weather, which has been in evidence during the past two weeks, has interfered with the fishing and not many eggs have been secured. The work of collecting and liberating will be continued just as long as there is anything to be done.

## WATCH THE GRAMPUS.

Watch the United States fish commission schooner Grampus, now on a research cruise, which will probably extend over eight months, and take in the coast from Cape Hatteras to Labrador. It takes a mackerel expert to study the movement of the mackerel schools and to locate them if possible, and possibly discover new mackerel fishing grounds. That's as pretty a bit of paternal aid as Uncle Sam has ever furnished. It shows the department rivalry at Washington, for this is the effort of the bureau of commerce and labor.—Boston Record.

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## Sch. Hazel R. Hines Getting Fish.

Capt. Lovitt Hines received a letter Monday evening from Capt. Fred Morrissey, of sch. Hazel R. Hines of this port. The letter stated that Capt. Morrissey arrived at Queensport, N. S., on April 14th and had secured the splendid fare of 130,000 pounds after having been out about three weeks. He sailed the following day for the banks after having secured a supply of fresh herring bait. While going into Queensport the schooner got aground and remained hard and fast for five hours but was not injured.

## First Fresh Squid.

The first fresh squid of the season came from Cape Cod to Boston on Wednesday with the first tautog and the first large throw of herring. The latter were large and plentiful, and upward of 200 barrels were received at T wharf.

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## Today's Receipts.

Sch. Manomet, via Boston, 12,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Buema, via Boston, 30,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Aspinet, via Boston, 30,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Francis P. Mesquita, via Boston, 50,000 lbs. fresh fish.

## Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Mary DeCosta, haddocking.

Sch. Yakima, halibuting.

Sch. Monitor, halibuting.

Sch. Regina, Boston.

Sch. Arthur Binney, Boston.

Sch. Olga, south seining.

Sch. Teazer, halibuting.

Sch. Jubilee, Rips.

Sch. Lafayette, south seining.

Sch. Miranda, Bay of Islands, N. F. salt herring trip.

Sch. Maud F. Silva, haddocking.

Sch. Mary E. Cooney, haddocking.

## Today's Fish Market.

Salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.00.

Bank halibut, 8 1-2 cts. per lb. for white, and 6 cts. per lb. for grey.

Salt pollock, \$1.00; salt haddock, \$1.00; salt hake, \$1.00.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large, \$1.65; mediums, \$1.40; Eastern cod, large, \$1.55; medium, \$1.30; cusk, \$1.50; for large, \$1.10 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 60c; hake, 60c.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$3.25; medium, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50; mediums, \$2.00; snappers, \$1.00.

Shore frozen herring for bait, \$2.00 to \$2.50 per cwt.

Round pollock, 50 cts. per cwt.

Newfoundland frozen herring, for bait, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per cwt.

## Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. George E. Lane, Jr., will now be fitted for Rips fishing.

Capt. James Jameson, formerly of sch. George E. Lane, Jr., will now command sch. Manomet in the market fishing.

Capt. William Price of sch. Manomet will now fit sch. Massasoit for south mackerel netting.

Capt. John J. Carroll will now fit sch. Massachusetts for a fetched halibut trip.

Sch. Priscilla is at this port from Boston to fit for south mackerel netting.

Capt. Charles Flygore is fitting sch. Jennie B. Hodgdon for fetched halibuting and will be ready to sail the first of next week.

Capt. Kemp is at this port from Provincetown and fitting sch. Arbutus for dory handlining.

Sch. Harry A. Nickerson is being fitted for a salt bank dory handline codfishing trip.

Sch. Dora A. Lawson is fitting for dory handlining under command of Capt. William Williams.

Sch. S. P. Willard, Capt. Augustus Peterson, is nearly ready for her fetched halibut voyage and will probably get away next Monday.



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Sch. Galatea will now fit for Rips fishing under command of Capt. Selig. Sch. Mina. Swim is fitting for Rips fishing, under command of Capt. William Forbes.

Capt. Frank Stream of sch. Waldo L. Stream reports speaking the dory handliners Meteor and Tattler recently, both crafts fishing near the northeast bar of Sable island.

Sch. Ethel B. Penney, Capt. Austin B. Penney has hauled out of market fishing and is at this port from Boston to fit for Rips fishing.

Sch. Kineo was at Edgartown Wednesday and baited with alewives.

Sch. Lafayette, Capt. George Peoples, sailed south mackerel netting this morning, being the first of the fleet at this port to get away.

Sch. Miranda, Capt. James McDonald, sailed this morning for Bay of Islands, N. F., on a late salt herring trip.

Sch. Athlete, Capt. Leroy Spinney of this port, one of the salt bank trawl codfishing fleet, was at Canso, N. S., Tuesday from her first baiting, with 90,000 pounds of salt cod.

Sch. Actor, one of the netting fleet, went to Boston yesterday to give her crew a chance to get their clothes, and will sail south from there.

Sch. Arthur Binney of Boston, which has fitted for seining at this port, went to Boston today for her "grub," and will sail from there tomorrow.

Sch. Norman Fisher sailed Rips fishing this morning under command of Capt. Edward Williams, a brother of Capt. John Williams of sch. Eugenia.

P. O. Whorff of Provincetown, who owns a fleet of five salt bankers, was here yesterday. He has not yet decided about sending his fleet, but thought he might start them all later on.

Sch. Thomas A. Cromwell of Boston has hauled out of haddocking and is at this port to fit for halibuting under command of Capt. Stephen Black.

Sch. John M. Keen will fit for south mackerel netting under command of Capt. Roderick McNeil.

Schs. James and Esther and Pythian are fitting for Rips fishing.

Capt. John Lennox is fitting sch. Ramona for the Rips.

Sch. Parthia, Capt. Nelson Thorburn, is about ready to sail dory handlining.

Quite a number of vessels are now here getting ready for mackerel seining, among them schs. Pontiac, Fannie E. Prescott, Terra Nova, Georgianna, Moanam and Conqueror. Sch. Olga is all fitted and ready to sail today.

Quite a number of the gasoline fleet have fitted for pollock seining, among them the Bryda F., Water Witch and Bessie A.

#### Codfish More Plentiful.

The cod netters in Ipswich bay, who have been finding fish scarce for some time, report a better pick now and that for the past few days there has been quite a noticeable improvement in the catches. It is not yet large, however, and is not as good as last year at this time. Some of the boats are thinking of fitting for mackerel netting but will hang on for a while and see how the cod school pans out.

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#### MARCH FISH RECEIPTS.

##### Comparative Amounts and Value at This Port and Boston.

According to the figures of the United States fish commission, 76 fares, aggregating 1,678,168 pounds of fresh fish valued at \$46,650 and 215,583 pounds of salt fish valued at \$7,305, a total of 1,893,751 pounds valued at \$53,950 were landed at this port during March and 527 fares, aggregating 8,622,200 pounds of fresh fish valued at \$237,024 were landed at Boston for the same month.

The receipts in detail at each port were:

Gloucester.		
	Pounds.	Value.
Fresh cod .....	782,729	\$13,131
Salt cod .....	199,327	6,823
Fresh cusk .....	21,510	327
Salt cusk .....	1,554	39
Fresh haddock .....	553,864	8,342
Salt haddock .....	4,885	49
Fresh hake .....	1,190	9
Salt hake .....	820	10
Fresh pollock .....	12,546	117
Salt pollock .....	3,882	39
Fresh halibut .....	308,329	24,724
Salt halibut .....	5,116	345

Boston.		
	Pounds.	Value.
Fresh cod .....	2,408,300	\$70,673
Fresh cusk .....	165,700	2,749
Fresh haddock .....	5,210,500	132,470
Fresh hake .....	393,500	10,300
Fresh pollock .....	264,000	7,932
Fresh halibut .....	180,200	12,899

#### STILL BAD WEATHER AND NO FISH.

#### No Encouraging News Received From the Mackerel Fleet.

#### Skippers of the Opinion That Fish Have Kept Off the Coast.

A letter from Lewes, Delaware breakwater, dated yesterday forenoon gives some interesting news and gossip from the southern fleet. The old report, "bad weather and no fish," seems to still hold good.

The letter says that there were 27 sail of seiners in the fleet that harbored there early in the week and all sailed for the fishing grounds on Thursday. The vessels were schs. Lucania, Saladin, Constellation, Rex, Marguerite Haskins, Speculator, Patrician, Ralph L. Hall, Oriole, Clintonia, Aloha, Diana, Judique, Natalie J. Nelson, George Parker, Mary E. Harty, Priscilla Smith, Rob. Roy, Monarch, Electric Flash, Dauntless, Arabia, Arcadia, Esperanto, Arthur James, Annie Greenlaw and one other. The fish commission sch. Grampus was also there.

When the letter was written at 10.30 o'clock Friday forenoon, the wind was to the eastward, and it was raining and beginning to breeze up, but the fleet had a good night to cruise. Thursday night.

While the fleet was in harbor at the breakwater, the skippers had a great time, making up parties and going on impromptu visits to other masters among the fleet, getting together in the cabins and talking over the situation and the mackerel prospects in general. As usual opinions differed and the gatherings were very interesting, as no skipper is backward in expressing his ideas on fish and their movements.

Several of the skippers, among them Capt. Morgan, McKinnon, Corkum and Barry, called on Capt. Jerry Cook on the Grampus and the situation in all its phases was carefully gone over. All seemed to be of one opinion that the schools reported by the steamers were bonitas and porgies, and that the former, being in on the usual fishing grounds, are keeping the mackerel in deep water farther off shore. The porgies, too, are reported off in deep water.

Capt. Farmer of sch. Patrician reports seeing the schools of mackerel which he set at in latitude 38.48 in from 45 to 70 fathoms of water.

At home here the opinion is expressed by some well posted ones that the extraordinary cold spring has caused the mackerel to come up the coast well off shore, so as to be near the warmer water of the Gulf Stream.

The catch to date out south comes near being the lightest on record to date. The latest the first trip of mackerel was ever landed out south was April 26, 1877.

The southern catch thus far this season is 16 barrels, against 1906 barrels at this time in 1908, 4223 barrels in 1907, 3639 barrels in 1906, 61 barrels in 1903 and 865 barrels in 1904.

About 19 or 20 days now remain to the fleet, or at least those vessels intending to go to the Cape Shore, to stay to the southward and the worst of it is the light nights are again coming on, which of course is bad for the seiners. However, all hope is not lost, and it is probable that some lucky craft may reach Fulton Market by Monday. As the fishermen say, "let us hope so."

Two barrels of large fresh mackerel were received at Fulton Market this morning from the Maryland shore traps. The fish are bringing 75 cents each.

The imports of salt mackerel at Boston to date of the catch of 1908 are 43,436 barrels, against 24,545 barrels to date last year of the catch of 1907.

Sch. Arthur Binney will sail south seining from Boston on Monday.

April 24

#### Visited Otter Trawler Spray.

Capt. Green of the otter trawler Spray says that while on the banks last Sunday he was visited by Capt. Pubnico of the British otter trawler Wren. Capt. Pubnico said that the owners of his vessel were so well satisfied with her success, that they had sent a resident agent over, with his family, to reside at Halifax, and were talking of buying more of the English type of otter trawlers to fish in American waters.

#### RHODE ISLAND LOBSTER LAW.

##### Licenses Will Be Granted Only to Residents of the State.

Rhode Island and Connecticut lobstermen are interested in the new law which goes into effect in the state of Rhode Island. The senate at Providence passed the lobster bill Friday morning with little opposition.

The bill cuts off all non-residents from Massachusetts and Connecticut at once. It allows the foreign citizens who have lived in this state one year and have, before the bill is passed, taken out their first papers, to do business until such time as the law allows them to complete their citizenship by paying a double license. Those who have not already taken out their first papers are cut off.

The bill requires that all lobstermen be licensed. The penalty for failure is \$20 fine and 30 days' imprisonment. The licenses are granted by the commissioners of inland fisheries to citizens of the United States who have resided in the state a year.

Each person licensed shall receive a certificate and a metal badge. Commissioners may revoke licenses for violation of the law and require the surrendering of the certificates and badges though not till notice of charges have been given and a hearing, if desired by the accused, held. Any person whose license has been revoked may appeal to the superior court and obtain a jury trial.

Each person licensed must produce certificate or badge on demand of the commissioners or deputies and the certificates and badges are not transferable. There is a fine of \$5 for violation of this.

The minimum size of the lobsters which may be taken is four and one-eighth inches, measured from the forward end of the bone projecting from the head to the rear end of the body shell. There is a fine of \$5 for each short lobster found and for each female lobster with eggs or from which the eggs have been brushed.

All pots must be plainly buoyed and for a violation of this provision there is a fine of \$20 or an imprisonment of 30 days. All buoys must show names of owners of the pots and their license number. For violation of this there is a fine of \$20 or an imprisonment of 30 days. All pots used under violation of this act may be seized and may be forfeited after court proceedings.

The close of season is from Nov. 15 to April 15. For violation there is a fine of \$20 and imprisonment for 30 days.

For mutilating an uncooked lobster or having any mutilated part in possession there is a fine of \$5 for each offense. The possession of any part of a lobster is sufficient evidence to convict.

Two deputy commissioners are provided for. Each is a special constable and may arrest without warrant, have right of search of any place or any boat and may seize and remove lobsters taken in violation of the law. The complainant receives one-half the fines and the state one-half.

April 24.

#### Canadian's Fish Wealth.

According to this official record the commercial fisheries of Canada last year yielded fish and fish products to the value of \$25,000,000; that is, the value of the fish taken from the coast and inland waters was practically one-third as great as the value of the wheat crop gathered from the farms of the three prairie provinces. All of which reminds one that Canada possesses great resources besides those of the soil. The gold mines of the entire Dominion did not produce this amount of wealth last year.

As a producer of fish wealth Nova Scotia bears the palm, closely followed by British Columbia. The fisheries of Nova Scotia last year yielded \$7,632,000; those of British Columbia \$6,122,000; those of New Brunswick \$5,300,000. The fisheries of Quebec yielded a little more than two million dollars, those of Ontario a little less than two millions, and those of Prince Edward Island a million and a half. Not quite a million dollars worth of fish were taken from the waters of the three prairie provinces.

As a wealth producer, salmon heads with a record of over five million dollars, the lobster is second, but one million behind salmon; while cod comes third, but almost a million behind the lobster. The eel foots the long list with only \$116,478 to its credit.